(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme provides that the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Voluntary Organisations, local bodies, Panchayat Raj Institutions etc. are to be actively involved in this programme for effective implementaton with maximum community support and for making it a people's programme. Accordingly the State Governments were requested to draw up guidelines within the overall framework of ICDS Scheme, for entrusting the whole or a part of an ICDS project to a voluntary organisation. A model set of guidelines drawn up by the Government, were also sent to all the States/Union Territories. These guidelines are also to be followed by Department of Women & Child Development in considering the direct allotment of some ICDS projects to voluntary agencies for implementation.

A decision was taken during the year 1993 to allocate 10% of the ICDS projects sanctioned during 1992-93 to registered voluntary organisations with a view to involve these organisations in the implementation of ICDS Scheme. All the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations were addressed and the Formats/Application Forms suggested for this purpose were also sent to them.

(b) to (d). The Government decision was to entrust new ICDS projects or part of project to registered voluntary organisations who are experienced in the delivery of services in the Social Sector.

NGOs have been encouraged to organise ICDS in new areas and therefore, there has been no impact on the Anganwadi workers in existing projects.

Relations with Myanmar

2985. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of our relations with Myanmar;

(b) the steps taken to strengthen further our relations with this country; and

(c) the steps being taken to open up travel and trade with this country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) We have friendly and cooperative relations with Myanmar.

(b) and (c). We have recently initiated border trade with Myanmar which is expected to develop in the years ahead as communication and transport infrastructure improves. Under the Border Trade Agreement, travel by road is permitted for business purposes in border areas for a period of 7 days. India and Myanmar are cooperating in border management and control of traffic in narcotics. We also have an agreed MOU on developing infrastructure facilities including roads and telecommunications, in the border areas. Training slots are provided to Myanmarese students in various vocational and other institutes. Following an understanding on resumption of direct flights between the two countries, Indian Airlines has resumed its operations to Yangon on 7th December, 1995.

[Translation]

Sports Complex in Rajasthan

2986. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct a big sports complex in Bayana-Dhaulpur area of Rajasthan:

(b) whether there is any planning for this complex in the current Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof: and

(c) whether the Government have received any demand letter in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (c). No, Sir.

[English]

Acquisition of Missiles by Pakistan

2987. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that medium and long range missiles have been acquired or are likely to be acquired by Pakistan in the near future:

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any diplomatic approach to dissuade the countries which are supplying such missiles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to intensify their efforts in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government have seen press reports regarding the deployment of nuclear capable M-11 missiles by Pakistan. Government have been aware of the acquisition of these missiles and consider it a matter of great concern. Our concern regarding Pakistani acquisition of nuclear capable missiles have also been conveyed to the concerned countries. Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.